

Saudi Trademark Protection

Saudi Arabia is a member of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and follows the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks under the Nice Agreement, with revisions and additions adopted as of January 1, 2002. A separate application should be filed with respect to each class of goods or services. Trademarks covering alcoholic goods and related retail or wholesale services are not applicable within the Kingdom.

What can I register as a Mark?

Can be registered as a Mark	Cannot be registered as a Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distinct shapes• Signatures• Words• Letters• Numbers• Drawings• Symbols• Seals• Prominent inscriptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invisible trademarks (e.g. sounds or scents)• Expressions, signs or drawings contrary to religious practices or public order or morality• Public and official symbols of KSA• Geographical names• Misleading statements or statements regarding honorary degrees• Internationally famous Marks or Marks similar to registered (or applied for) Marks

What is the process for registering a Mark?

Documents required	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application form• Legalized copy of the Mark's corresponding home registration certificate• Legalized Power of Attorney or Authorization of Agent• List of goods to be covered and their classes• Thirty prints of the Mark for each class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thirty prints of the Mark for each class• A decision is made on applications within 60 days by the Ministry of Commerce• If the application is rejected, the applicant has 90 days to satisfy the conditions for approval set forth by the Ministry of Commerce• Appeals may be filed to the Board of Grievances within 30 days of the final rejection notification

Trademarks registered in Saudi Arabia are protected for a period of 10 Hegira years from the date of application. Registrants can apply for renewals of the Mark within the last year of validity or within a grace period of 6 months after expiration of the Mark.